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| **Cleaning and Decontamination of Ambulance used in the Transportation of Patients with or Suspected of Having Airborne High Consequence Infectious Disease (AHCID, eg COVID-19)** |
| Document type | Identification code | Implementation date |
| Standard operating procedure  | SOP-AIR-005 | 17 February 2020 |

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\* to be hand-written to indicate approval

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# Purpose

* 1. This procedure describes the cleaning and decontamination of the ambulance used in the transportation of patients with, or suspected of having, Airborne High Consequence Infectious Disease (AHCID)

# Scope

2.1 This SOP MUST be enforced for ALL Transport Department Staff (Drivers and vehicle cleaners) and Treatment Centre (TC) staff.

# Responsibilities

3.1 The head of Clinical Services department (CSD) is responsible for the oversight and running of the clinical services department in which the TC is sited.

3.2 The lead AHCID doctor and the Head of Transport is responsible for training and overseeing the adherence to this SOP

3.3 All TC staff are required to observe all the applicable practices and procedures detailed in the SOP, attend training/drill sessions and report all incidents/accidents to the AHCID lead doctor.

3.4 The head of transport is responsible to make sure that drivers and vehicle cleaners are adequately trained to perform their task described below.

# Procedure

**Note 1:** 10% bleach solution = 0.5% chlorine.

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| **Section** | **Description** | **Person(s) Responsible** |
| **4.1** | **Equipment in place and materials needed for vehicle cleaning and decontamination** 1. Water pumping machine with a hose and adjustable jet spray.
2. 100 litre tank of 10% bleach solution
3. Access to clean water (tap).
4. Roll of blue paper towel
5. Vehicle cleaning detergent.
6. 2 Buckets (25litres).
7. Waste bags.
 | TC, Drivers and vehicle cleaners |
| 4.2 | **Ambulance decontamination and cleaning.**  | Drivers and vehicle cleaners |
| 4.2.1 | This should be done on the ambulance decontamination slab next to the incinerator at the TC. Decontamination should be carried out by a 3-person team. Two people will be donned in PPE and perform the decontamination. A WASH staff (not donned in PPE) to supervise, document the decontamination and provide other assistance as needed. | Drivers and vehicle cleaners |
| 4.2.2 | Don PPE as specified in SOP-AIR-001 wearing heavy duty gloves and heavy duty yellow suits. | Drivers and vehicle cleaners |
| 4.2.3 | Open all vehicle doors and **inspect interior carefully** to identify spills of blood, urine, vomit or other biological materials. | Drivers and vehicle cleaners (TC) staff |
| 4.2.4 | Pour 10% bleach over any spills.  | (TC) staff |
| 4.2.5 | Cover spills with paper towels and leave for a minimum of **10 minutes**. | (TC) staff |
| 4.2.6 | Wipe up thoroughly using more paper towels if needed. | (TC) staff |
| 4.2.7 | **Double bag** paper towels to be disposed of by ETC staff, as specified in SOP-AIR-006. | (TC) staff |
| 4.2.8 | The jet sprayer is preset at low pressure. Spray the whole inside rear compartment of the vehicle thoroughly, especially any area that the patient has touched, with 10% bleach solution. | (TC) staff |
| 4.2.9 | **Never** use a power washer or high power hose or jet whilst cleaning or rinsing the Ebola ambulance. These methods can create dangerous aerosols. | (TC) staff |
| 4.2.10 | Allow the bleach to soak for **15 minutes**.  | (TC) staff |
| 4.2.11 | Rinse vehicle well with a low pressure water hose and wash with soap and water as usual.**Note 2**: *Ensure to rinse the vehicle very well with water because bleach solution is corrosive to the vehicle*. | (TC) staff |
| 4.2.12 | Spray the outside of the vehicle including tyres with 10% bleach.  | Drivers and vehicle cleaners |
| 4.2.13 | Rinse the entire vehicle with clean water. | Drivers and vehicle cleaners |
| 4.2.14 | Allow vehicle to dry in the sun with doors open. | Drivers and vehicle cleaners |
| 4.2.15 | Doff PPE as specified in SOP-AIR-002. | Drivers and vehicle cleaners |

# Appendices

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| **Appendix number** | **Title** (as referenced on the appendix) |
| Appendix 01 | Document Version History |

# Attachments

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| **Attachment number** | **Title** (as referenced on the attachment) |
| None |  |

# References

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| Médecins Sans Frontières, 2008. Filovirus Haemorrhagic Fever Guideline. |
| MRC Ebola Protocol Project started by Dr Edward Green. |

**Appendix 01 Document Version History**

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| **Version number** | **Change history**  | **Author** | **Date** |
| 1.0 | New | Baz Nadjm | 17 February 2020 |